

Minutes
Board of Directors
New London Historical Society
24 June 2015

Present: Sue King, Emma Crane, Maureen Strachan (president), Laurie, Lauridsen, Tom Little, Clara Sheehy, Jeremy Bonin, David Royle, Maggie Ford; Patty McGoldrick (executive director).

Meeting convened at 5:00 p.m. at the Meeting House.

1. Secretary's Report. Tabled until next board meeting, pending receipt of the report.
2. Treasurer's Report. Tom Little presented the report of current financial activity, pointing out items of growth or over-expenditure, with a projected year-end deficit of approximately \$3,345.

Motion to accept the budget as presented.

Moved by Sue King; seconded by Emma Crane: motion passed.

3. 2015-2016 Budget Report. Tom Little presented the 2015-2016 budget proposal which he and Patty McGoldrick had prepared. Considerable discussion over the willingness of the board to adopt a deficit budget proposal of (\$11,160), where changes could be made in either income or expenses; actions the board proposes to take to raise the fund to balance the budget over the fiscal year vs. taking the deficit from savings.

Motion to approve the 2015-2016 annual budget as presented with the understanding that at 6 months, the board will look at the expenses and income, and adjust the budget as necessary.

Moved by David Royle seconded by Emma Crane; motion passed.

4. LAB as Welcome Center. Maggie Ford and Jeremy Bonin reviewed the discussions on the use of the LAB going forward following the necessary repairs as a visitor center and gallery space, and a possible name change.

Motion to move ahead with planning for a visitor center and gallery in the LAB, and a rechristening of the facility.

Moved by Sue King; seconded by David Royle; motion passed.

5. Events Update.
 - a. Patty McGoldrick reported on activities and staffing for Strawberry Festival at NLHS on Sunday June 28th.
 - b. David Royle reported on progress on "Reflections" the exhibit of Bud Lauridsen's paintings scheduled in September.
6. Programs. Clara Sheehy reported on the upcoming program "Here Comes the Bride," Sunday July 12th.
7. Membership. Reports provided within the conversation on budget, in Debbie Hall's absence.

8. Nominating Committee. Maureen Strachan reported on the formation and activities to date of the Nominating Committee which comprises Maureen Strachan, David Royle, Jeremy Bonin and Maggie Ford. Potential candidates have been identified; additional suggestions from the board are encouraged. Clarification that the Treasurer would oversee a bookkeeper (to be engaged) Considerable discussion of the number of vacancies or positions to be filled; deferred and a final listing of current and projected open positions on the board to be attached to the minutes.
9. Organizational Assessment. Maureen Strachan reported on her follow-up to the decision made at the previous board meeting to engage Executive Service Corps (ESC) to do an organizational assessment and possible follow-up retreat for NLHS. She reported on her conversation with Tom Mongeon, executive director of ESC, a history of the organization, and the likely scope of work. She reminded the board that Maggie Ford (as a consultant for ESC) had indicated at the previous board meeting that she would not participate in any portion of the assessment or retreat activities. Considerable discussion around the board's readiness to do a retreat; failed attempts in the past due to lack of follow-up; needs to get other bidders.

Motion to move ahead with the organizational assessment but not commit to the retreat at this time.

Moved by Maureen Strachan; seconded by Sue King; motion passed.

10. Administrative report. Patty McGoldrick reported on the YCN and NHChronicle tapings and airings; Kelli Bogan's work on the website.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Maggie Ford, secretary pro tem